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RED
MASK

NO.45



RED MASK

THE *FALSE* REDMASK
DIES! BUT WHICH
ONE *IS* REDMASK?





WEB COMIC
UNIVERSE.COM

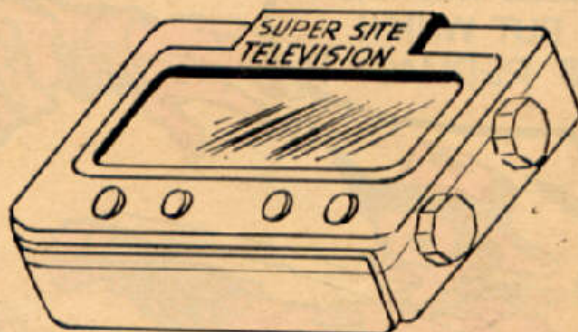
HEY KIDS!!

SEND FOR THE NEW

HOWDY DOODY

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only
1



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2. Howdy Doody at the Circus
3. Howdy Doody at the Beach
4. Howdy Doody Goes to Alaska
5. Howdy Doody Goes Hunting for Rabbits
6. Howdy Doody in the Side Show
7. Howdy Doody Goes to Mars
8. Howdy Doody Visits Indian Friends



DILLY DALLY

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In all, the 8 rolls of 4 color film make up 104 different pictures of Howdy Doody and his friends! Don't wait! Mail the coupon immediately with only \$1. Your set will be sent postpaid. No C.O.D.'s. For Canadian and foreign orders — send \$1.50 money order. Satisfaction guaranteed or return set for full refund.

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Red MASK

WHEN THE MEN AND WOMEN OF THE EARLY WEST RODE THE STAGECOACH TRAIL, THEY RODE A TRAIL TO DEATH. THERE WERE DANGERS FROM BANDITS AND HUNTED OUTLAWS, FROM THIRST AND HEAT AND INDIANS. AND WHEN BLUEFACE BRINGS A BAND OF RENEGADES APACHES OUT OF THE RESERVATION, ON THE PATH OF SCALPS AND PLUNDER, REDMASK HIMSELF DARES THE GRIM THREAT OF DEATH ON THE

"STAGE TO DEVIL'S GAP!"



THE SUN BEATS DOWN ON A ROCKETING STAGE COACH THUNDERING ACROSS THE SUN-BAKED PLAINS—

BLUEFACE—TERROR OF THE WEST! MEN SAY HE WEARS A BELT OF HUMAN SCALPS!

AIN'T GOT MUCH OF A CHANCE! THAT'S BLUEFACE RIGHT BEHIND US!

KILL! KILL THE PALEFACE!

A MAN SWINGS OUT OF THE STAGE
AND TO ITS ROOF—



AND DEB MORRIS, A DRUMMER—
OR, SALESMAN— OF CHILDREN'S
TOYS AND NOVELTIES...



HE LEAVES BEHIND HIM IN THE COACH ITSELF—



PEARL NOLAN, ON HER WAY
HOME FROM AN EASTERN BOARDING-
SCHOOL, TO JOIN HER FAMILY—

CAPTAIN LEWIS SPRINGER
TRAVELING TO DEVIL'S GAP TO
ASSUME COMMAND OF THE
SIXTH CAVALRY—

THIS IS MARK TODD, VETERAN DRIVER—



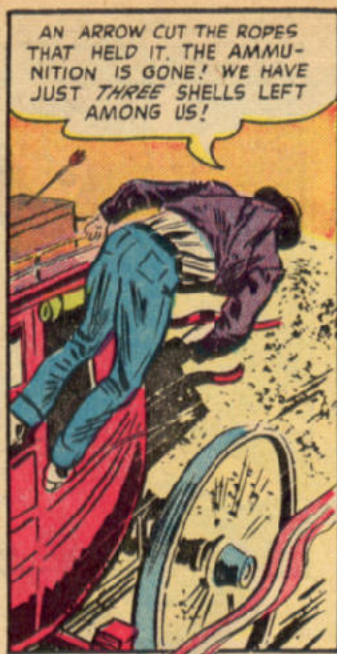
RUN, YOU BEAUTIES! WE AIN'T GOT
MUCH OF A CHANCE, BUT WE'LL TAKE
WHAT CHANCE WE HAVE!

AGAIN AND AGAIN, THE RIFLE
CRACKS FROM THE TOP OF
THE STAGE, JOINED BY THE
ARMY REVOLVER IN THE COACH
BELOW...

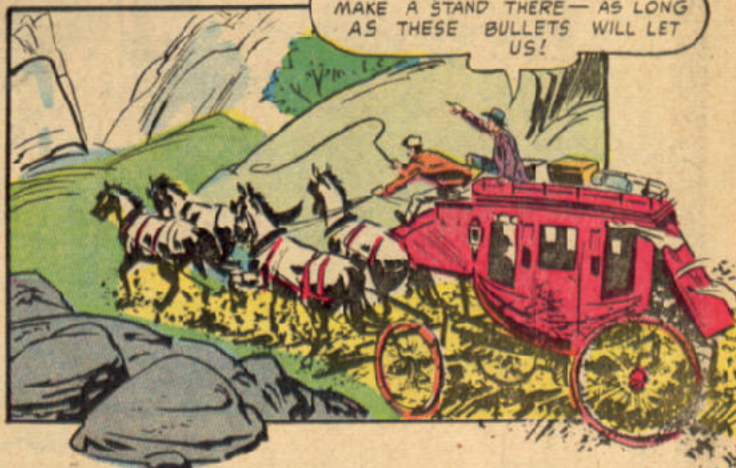


REIN UP! WE'LL NEVER
CATCH THEM ON THE STRAIGHT-
AWAY. I HAVE A BETTER
PLAN! HU! FOLLOW ME,
INTO THE HILLS!

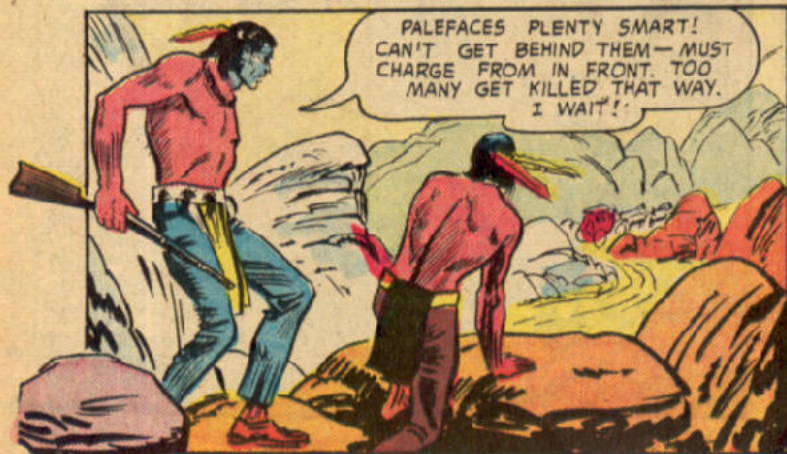




AS DUSK THROWS A PALL OF CRIMSON SUNSET ACROSS THE CANYON LANDS...



TO BLUEFACE, THE GRIM GUNS OF THE WAITING PASSENGERS THREATEN DEATH. LIKE A GOOD GENERAL HE MAKES DIFFERENT PLANS—



AS DARKNESS SHROUDS THE LITTLE PARTY, ONE MAN SLITHERS AWAY DOWN THE CANYON FLOOR...



FOR HALF A MILE THE MAN CRAWLS. THEN HE COMES TO HIS FEET AND RUNS. TOWARD MIDNIGHT, HE PAUSES NEAR A FLAT ROCK AND TILTS IT BACK—



THIS IS WHAT I WANT!

A FEW MINUTES LATER, HE APPEARS AS— **REDMASK OF THE RIO GRANDE!**



I ALWAYS KEEP SOME SPARE AMMUNITION IN THESE HIDING PLACES WHERE I STORE MY REDMASK COSTUMES. IF I CAN GET BACK TO THE STAGE BY SUNUP, I'LL SAVE THEIR LIVES!

MEANWHILE...



THAT OTHER PASSENGER IS GONE! DO YOU THINK HE WENT FOR HELP?

COULD BE— THOUGH HE DIDN'T TAKE HIS RIFLE WITH HIM! LISTEN, I HEAR SOMETHING!



ONE OF THEM REDSKINS TRYING TO SNEAK IN!

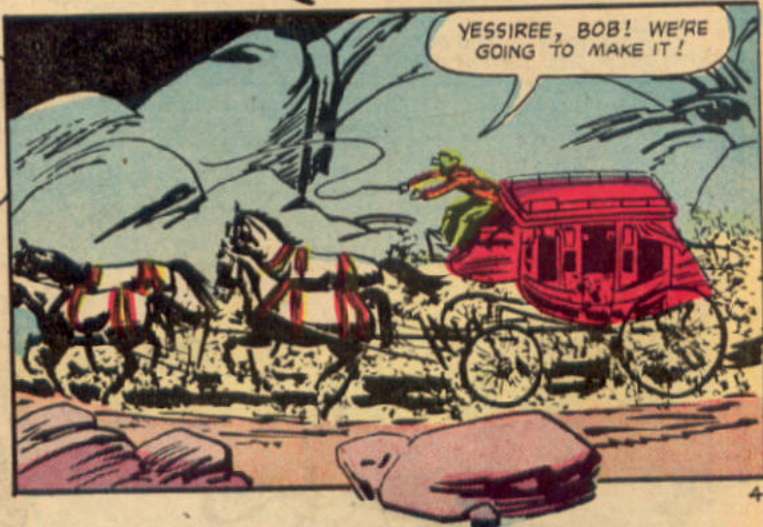
A BULLET TEARS ACROSS REDMASK'S TEMPLE. HE COLLAPSES UNCONSCIOUS, THE NEEDED AMMUNITION SPILLING USELESSLY IN THE DUST!



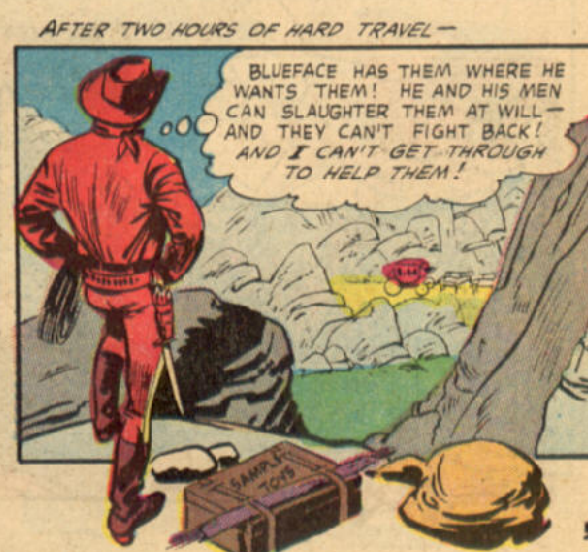
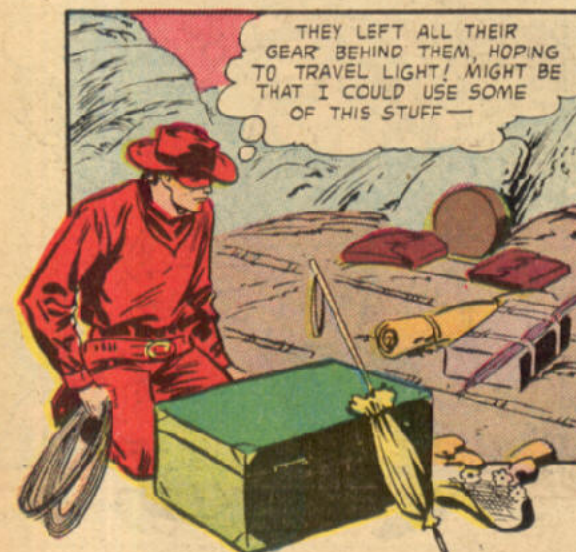
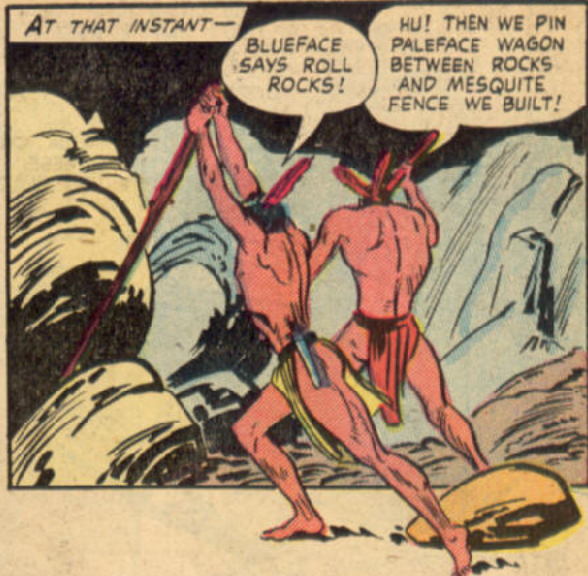
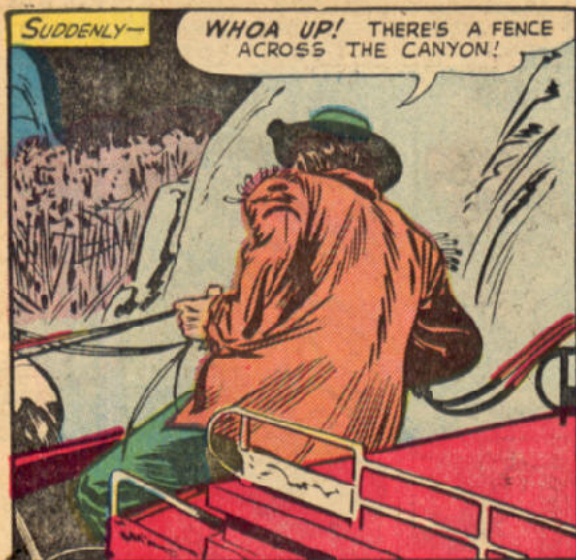
AN HOUR BEFORE DAWN—

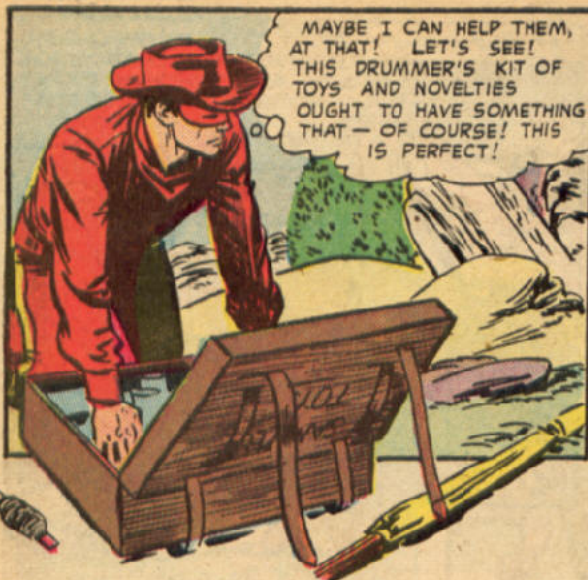


INTO THE COACH, EVERYBODY! INDIANS WON'T ATTACK AT NIGHT, SO WE'RE GOING TO MAKE A RUN FOR IT, BEFORE SUNUP!



YESSIREE, BOB! WE'RE GOING TO MAKE IT!



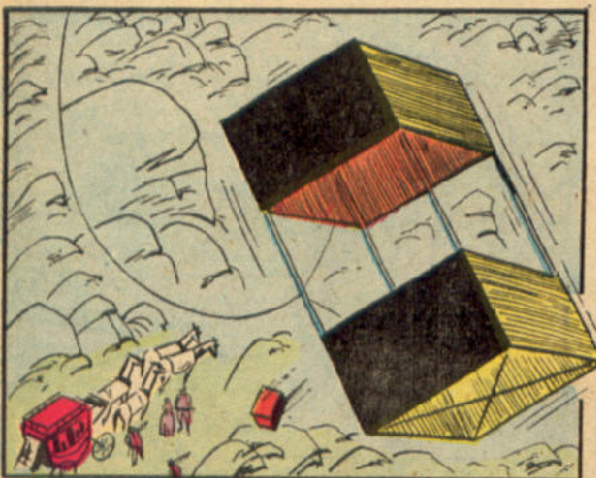


MAYBE I CAN HELP THEM, AT THAT! LET'S SEE! THIS DRUMMER'S KIT OF TOYS AND NOVELTIES OUGHT TO HAVE SOMETHING THAT— OF COURSE! THIS IS PERFECT!



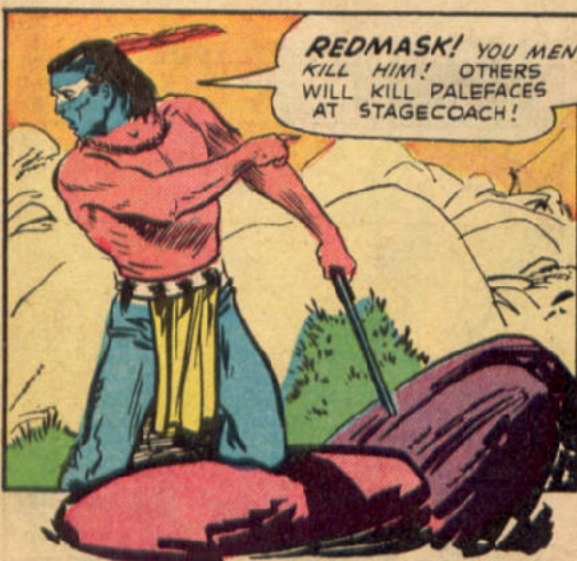
UNDER REDMASK'S DEFT FINGERS, A LARGE BOX-KITE TAKES SHAPE, TYING A SMALL BOX OF SHELLS TO ITS STRING, HE LAUNCHES IT—

AS THE KITE FLIES ABOVE THE TRAPPED STAGE-COACH, A TUG OF THE RELEASE STRING DROPS THE BOX OF AMMUNITION!



THAT REDMASK SURE HAS A HEAD ON HIS SHOULDERS!

IF I NEVER WAS GLAD I WORKED SELLING TOYS AND NOVELTIES, I AM NOW! THESE SHELLS WILL SAVE OUR LIVES!



REDMASK! YOU MEN— KILL HIM! OTHERS WILL KILL PALEFACES AT STAGECOACH!



WHERE DID THEY COME FROM?



—ONLY TO RUN INTO A DEADLY BLAST OF GUNFIRE!



HIS MEN SLAIN, HIS VISIONS OF PLUNDER GONE, BLUEFACE CHARGES REDMASK LIKE AN INSANE MAN!

BELOW, THE APACHE'S RENEGADES RACE FOR THE TRAPPED STAGE-COACH PASSE!



THE ONLY THING YOU'LL KILL FROM NOW ON IS **TIME**—IN JAIL!



REDMASK'S RIGHT! DRIVER, LET'S TAKE DOWN THAT FENCE, AND GET ON TO DEVIL'S GAP!

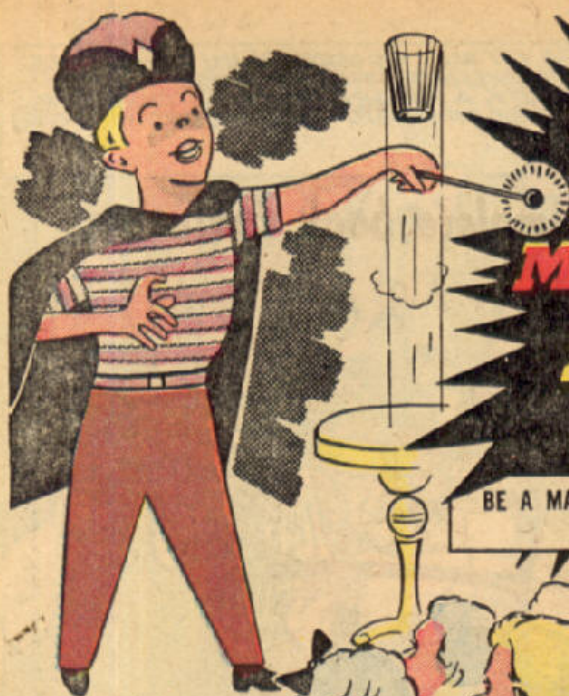
— THE END —

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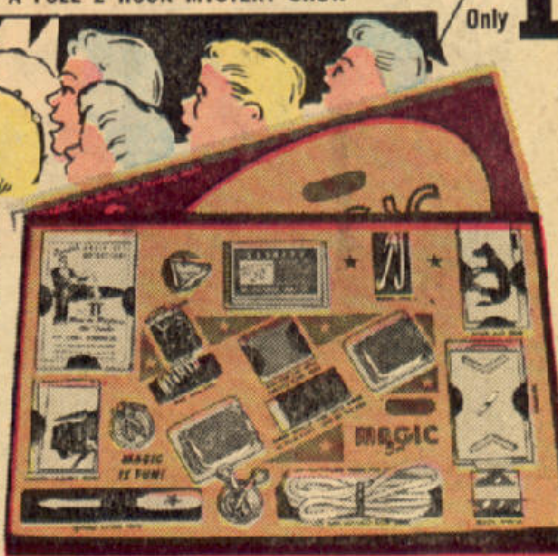
Imagine, by just waving your magic wand and shouting a few magic words you will be able to make things disappear and reappear. . . . Imagine your friends and mother and dad all being fooled, surprised and amazed. You'll hold them spell-bound. They will just sit open mouthed with wonderment. They'll be delighted, for it's a barrel of fun for everyone. It's so fascinating and thrilling. . . . BUT. . . . the hidden secrets will be yours, never to reveal. Follow the simple directions and no one will ever catch on.

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VIS-ESCAPE	QUESTION MARK
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OUR GRIM SENTINEL OF JUSTICE HAS NEVER YET MET HIS MATCH! BUT THIS TIME HIS VENGEFUL ADVERSARY IS NO ORDINARY OWLHOOT! THIS TIME HE'S PITTED AGAINST AN ESCAPE ARTIST EXTRAORDINARY, A NEFARIOUS KNIFE-THROWER, A HIGH-POWERED HYPNOTIST, AND A MASTER OF MAGIC—ALL ROLLED INTO ONE! THIS TIME IT'S **MAGICO VERSUS...**



STOP WORRYIN', WARDEN! HIS ARMS AND LEGS ARE SHACKLED—AN' THE CELL IS DOUBLE BARRED! THERE ISN'T ONE CHANCE IN A MILLION OF **MAGICO** BREAKIN' LOOSE BEFORE THE CIRCUIT JUDGE COMES!!!

THE FOOLS! I CAN ESCAPE ANY TIME I PLEASE! ALL I'VE BEEN WAITING FOR IS TO PERFECT MY PLAN OF VENGEANCE AGAINST THE MAN WHO DARED PLACE ME BEHIND THESE BARS...**THE GHOST RIDER!**

AND **NOW** MY PLAN IS PERFECT!



MAGICO WAITS TILL MEAL TIME

HERE'S YOUR GRUB, YUH ORNERY SCALAWAG!

MY EYE... THERE'S SOMETHING IN MY EYE... UNDER THE LID!



WHICH ONE? LEMME — L-LEMMEE... SEE...

SO SIMPLE! WHILE HE SEARCHES MY EYES FOR A DUST SPECK, HE FALLS UNDER THE SPELL OF MY HYPNOTIC POWER!

UNLOCK THESE SHACKLES! THEN HAND OVER YOUR KEYS!



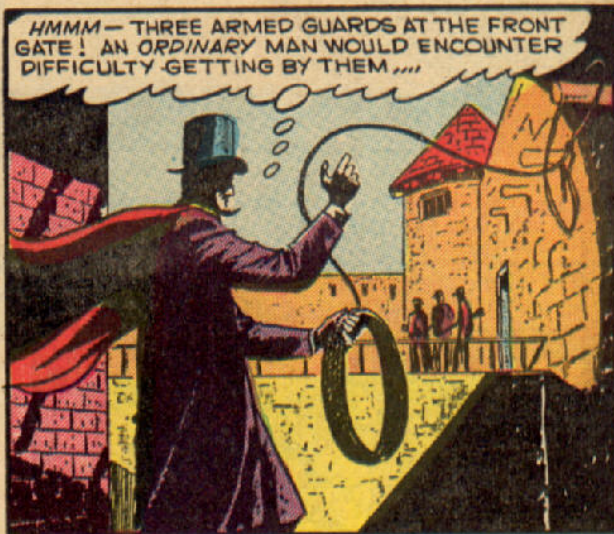
A MINUTE LATER, OUT IN THE CORRIDOR —

HEY — AH — CHOO!

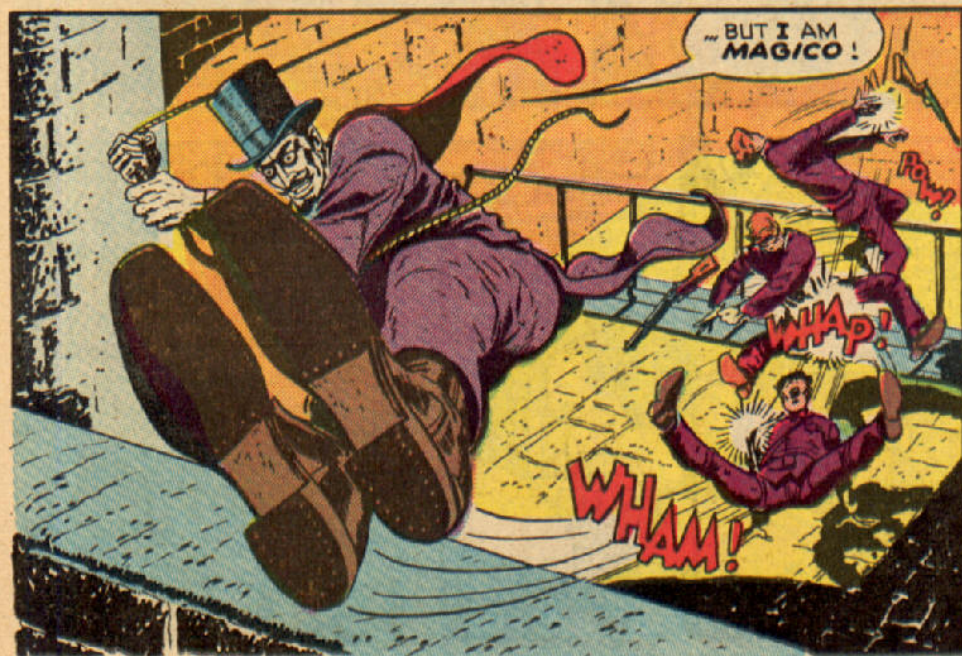
THEY THOUGHT THEY HAD SEARCHED ME THOROUGHLY — BUT THE FLESH-COLORED CAPSULE OF SNEEZING POWDER WAS PASTED BEHIND MY EAR ALL THE TIME!



HMMM — THREE ARMED GUARDS AT THE FRONT GATE! AN ORDINARY MAN WOULD ENCOUNTER DIFFICULTY GETTING BY THEM



BUT I AM MAGICO!

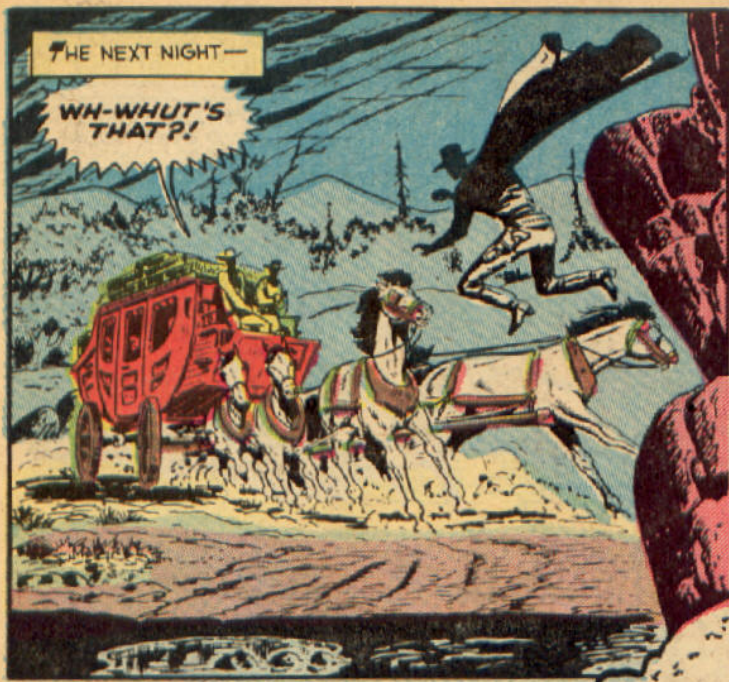


TONIGHT I SHALL REST! BUT WHEN THE SUN SINKS AGAIN TOMORROW, I SHALL BEGIN TO WEAVE THE WEB THAT WILL DESTROY THE GHOST RIDER!



THE NEXT NIGHT—

WH-WHUT'S THAT?!



PERCHED PRECARIOUSLY ON THE FEAR-MADDENED HORSES, THE SHADOWY FIGURE FIRES WITH DEADLY ACCURACY!

N-NO! IT CAIN'T BE...! AAAARGHHH!



AND NOW AS HE RELIEVES THE PASSENGERS OF THEIR VALUABLES, THEY SEE HIM CLEARLY IN THE LIGHT OF THE MOON ...

IT-IT'S THE GHOST RIDER—TURNED OWLHOOT!



LATER ...

HEH-HEH-HEH! MAGICO IS A MAN OF A MILLION DISGUISES! AND TONIGHT I CHOSE TO IMPERSONATE THE GHOST RIDER FOR A VERY SPECIAL REASON!

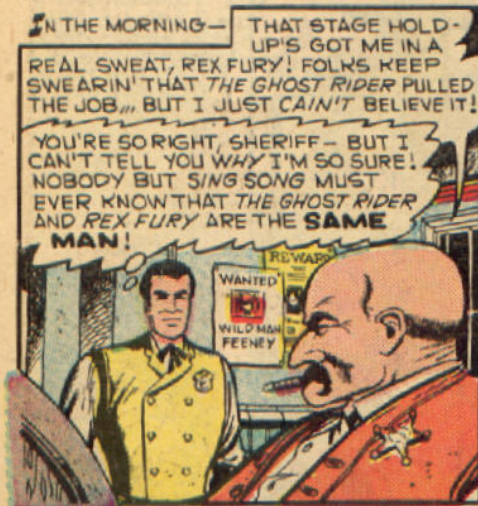


IN THE MORNING—

THAT STAGE HOLD-UP'S GOT ME IN A

REAL SWEAT, REX FURY! FOLKS KEEP SWEARIN' THAT THE GHOST RIDER PULLED THE JOB... BUT I JUST CAIN'T BELIEVE IT!

YOU'RE SO RIGHT, SHERIFF— BUT I CAN'T TELL YOU WHY I'M SO SURE! NOBODY BUT SING SONG MUST EVER KNOW THAT THE GHOST RIDER AND REX FURY ARE THE SAME MAN!

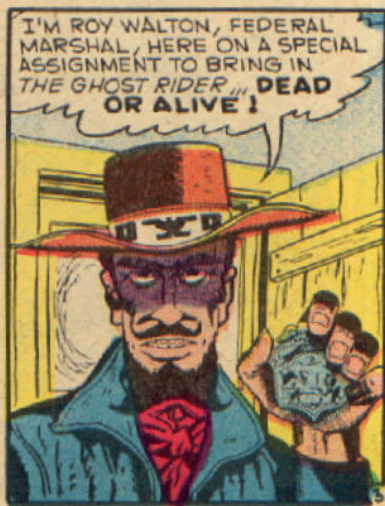


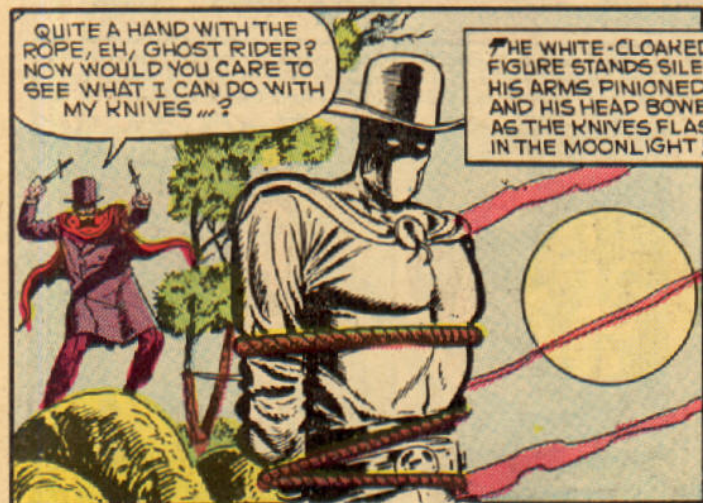
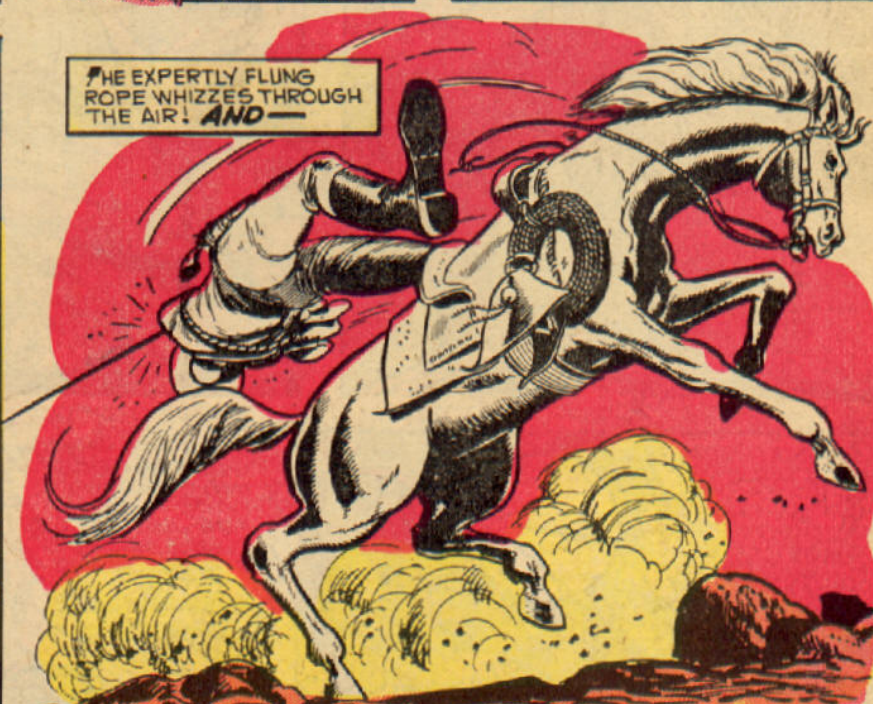
SUDDENLY—

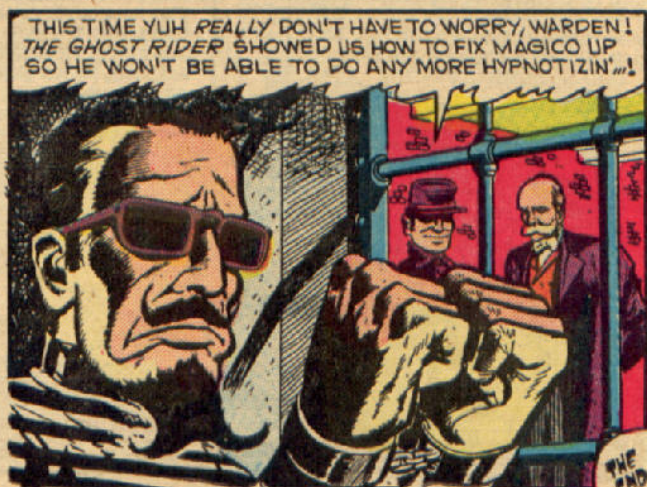
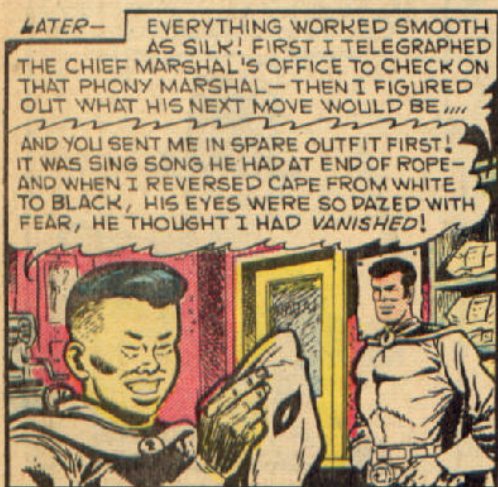
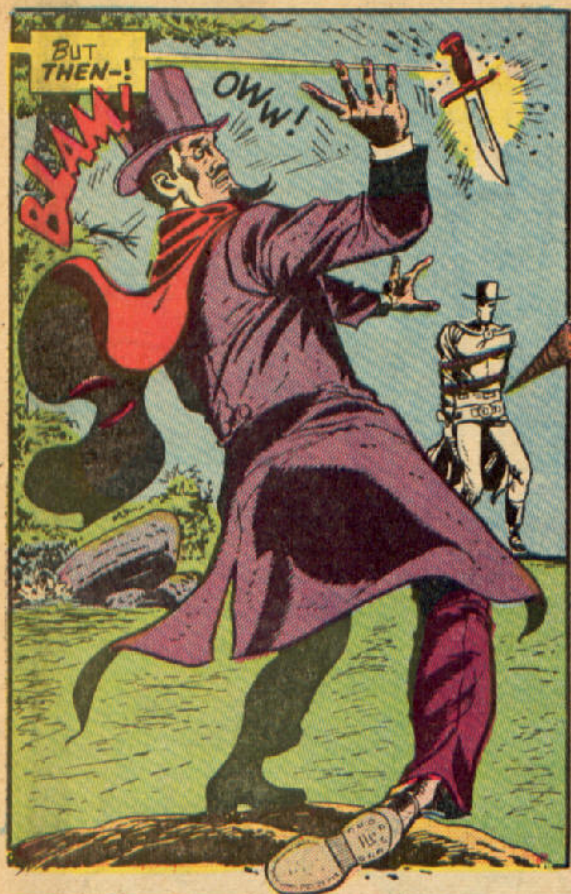
GLAD TO HEAR YOU'RE SO CONCERNED ABOUT THAT STAGE ROBBERY. THAT MEANS YOU'LL BE OF HELP TO ME.



I'M ROY WALTON, FEDERAL MARSHAL, HERE ON A SPECIAL ASSIGNMENT TO BRING IN THE GHOST RIDER... DEAD OR ALIVE!







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RED MASK

REDMASK MUST DIE!
BUT WHICH OF THESE
MEN IS REDMASK?



REDMASK IS A GOOD FRIEND OF THE COMANCHE PEOPLE...WHEN THEY TURN AGAINST HIM, WHEN THEIR EYES AND THEIR HEARTS KNOW ONLY HATE FOR THEIR FORMER FRIEND, THEN HE RISKS DEATH ITSELF TO DISCOVER THE STRANGE SECRET OF —

"THE OTHER REDMASK!"

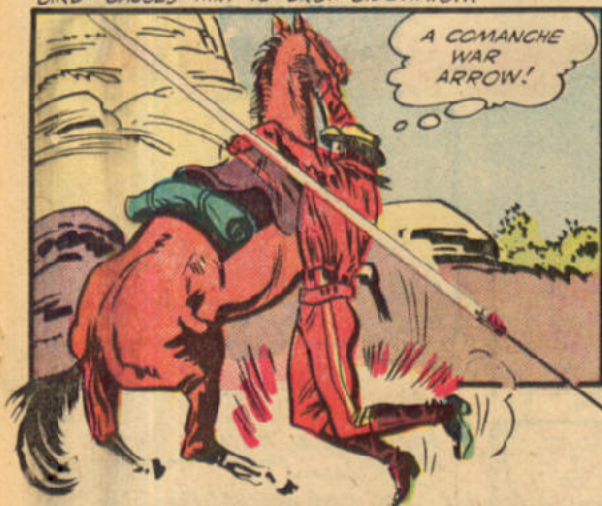
WH-145 945

FNB

ALONG THE ROAD THAT LEADS PAST THE RED BUTTE COUNTRY, A COMANCHE WARRIOR REINS HIS PONY IN...



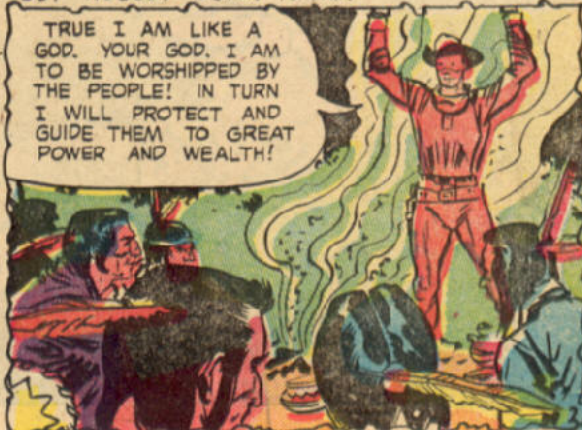
ONLY THE INDIAN HIMSELF HAS EYES AS KEEN AS REDMASK! THE SUDDEN MOVEMENT OF A STARTLED BIRD CAUSES HIM TO DROP SIDWAYS...



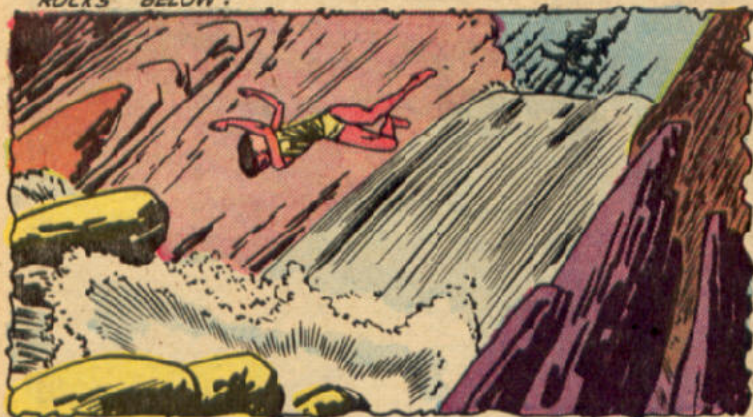
"REDMASK COME TO COMANCHERIA MANY MOONS AGO. HE BRING CHEAP GLASS BEADS AND TIN BRACELETS FOR WOMEN, NO-GOOD KNIVES FOR MEN!"



"THEN REDMASK TELL COMANCHE ELDERS NEWS OF BUFFALO, NEWS OF GOOD HUNTING. MAKE PEOPLE LOOK ON HIM AS GOD. ME SAY YOU CHEAT COMANCHES. USE TELEGRAPH LEARN THESE THINGS. BUT NOBODY LISTEN TO ME!"



"YOU TELL ANTELOPE GIRL SHE MUST DIE AS SACRIFICE TO APPEASE ANGER OF GREAT SPIRIT. EVEN NOW SHE THROWS HERSELF INTO INDIAN FALLS. SHE WILL DIE ON JAGGED ROCKS BELOW!"



NO TIME TO LOSE!
I DIDN'T TELL
ANTELOPE GIRL
TO JUMP, BUT THAT'S
NO REASON WHY
I CAN'T SAVE
HER IF I CAN
REACH HER IN
TIME!

AHEAD OF HIM, CROUCHED OVER
A SMALL HERB FIRE, IS ANTELOPE
GIRL...



MAY THE WAKAN TANKA
GUIDE ME THROUGH THE
SHADES OF DEATH! MAY
THE GREAT SPIRIT WATCH
OVER ME!



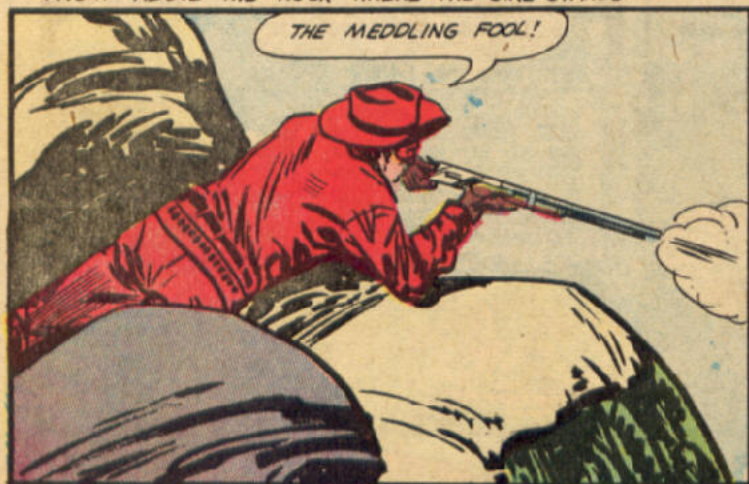
I AM NOT AFRAID TO
DIE, NOT IF— NOT IF
IT IS THE WISH OF
THE WAKAN TANKA!

FROM BELOW, REDMASK SHOUTS
HOARSELY...



NO, NO! ANTELOPE
GIRL—WAIT!!
DON'T JUMP!!!

FROM ABOVE THE ROCK WHERE THE GIRL STANDS—



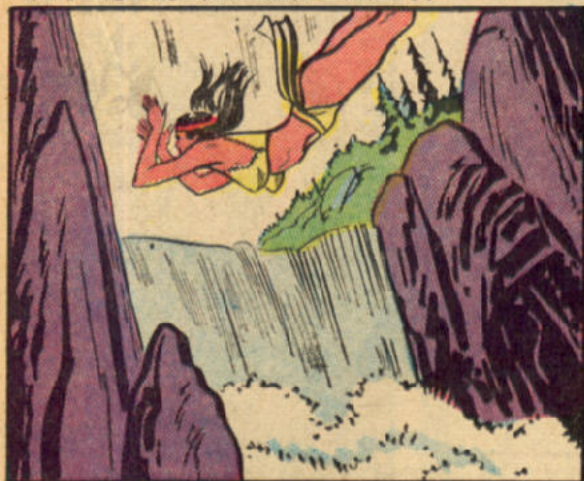
THE MEDDLING FOOL!

A BULLET HITS SOLID STONE AND
GLANCES UPWARD—

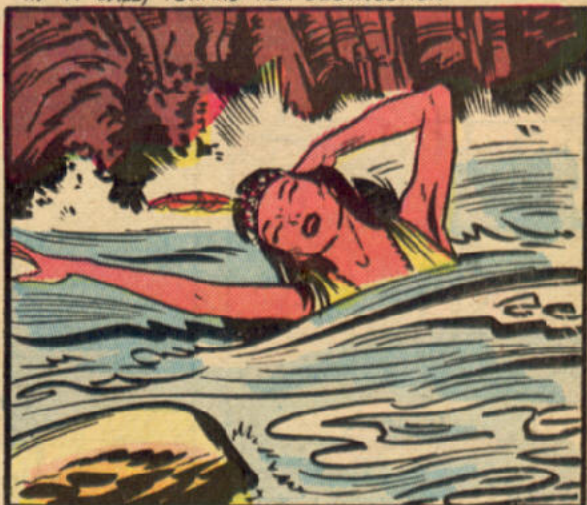


GNNNGGGG!

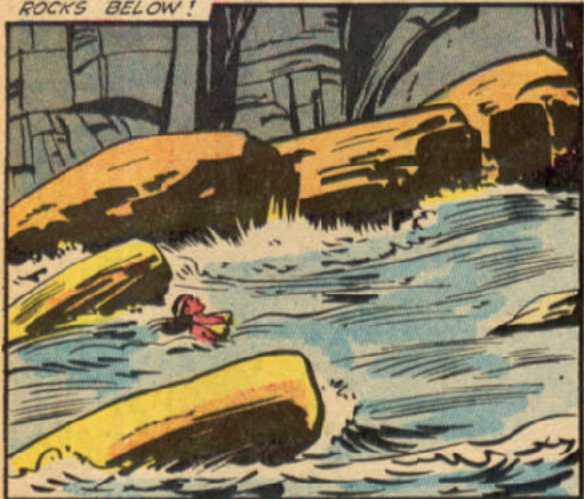
HEARING NEITHER SHOUT OF WARNING, NOR THE SCREAMING BULLET, ANTELOPE GIRL HURTLES OUTWARD TOWARD THE FIERCE RAPIDS!



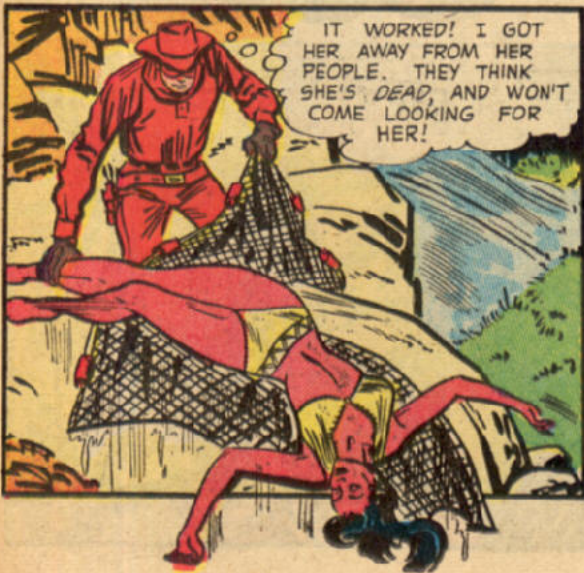
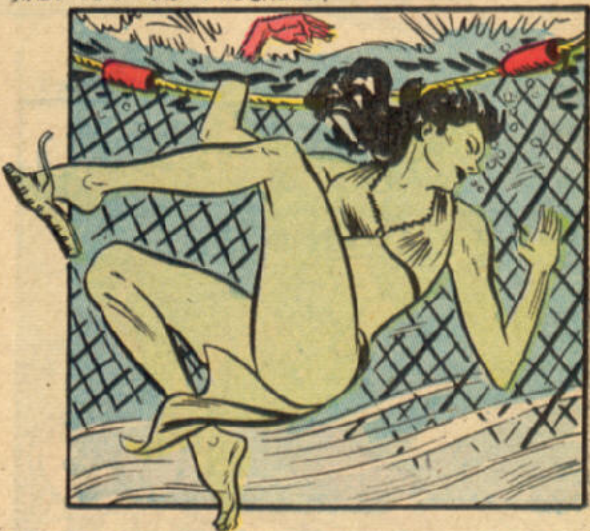
THE WATER LIFTS AND CARRIES HER LIKE A LEAF IN A GALE, TOWARD HER DESTRUCTION—



WAITING FOR HER ARE THE SAVAGE WATERS OF INDIAN FALLS, AND THE GLEAMING, SPRAY-WET ROCKS BELOW!



THEN, INVISIBLE HANDS SEEM TO REACH OUT AND HALT HER MAD PROGRESS!



IT WORKED! I GOT HER AWAY FROM HER PEOPLE. THEY THINK SHE'S DEAD, AND WON'T COME LOOKING FOR HER!



WHEN SHE COMES TO, SHE'LL TAKE ME TO THE SECRET MINES WHERE THE COMANCHES GET THEIR GOLD. SHE KNOWS WHERE IT IS. AS SACRED HAND-MAIDEN TO THE MEDICINE MAN, SHE GOES WITH HIM WHEN THEY NEED IT! IF SHE WON'T GO WILLINGLY, I KNOW WAYS OF MAKING HER!

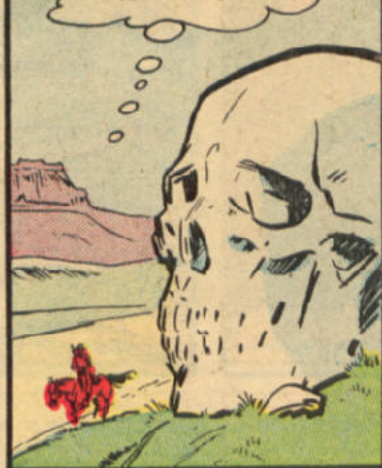
SOME DISTANCE UPSTREAM...

OH, MY HEAD! SOMEBODY SHOT AT ME, TO MAKE SURE ANTELOPE GIRL WENT TO HER DEATH. BUT... WHY?



AN HOUR OF SCOUTING FOR "SIGN" ON DAMP EARTH AND CRUSHED FLOWERS BRINGS REDMASK TO SKULL ROCK—

THEY CAME THIS WAY, ALL RIGHT, HEADING FOR THE HIGH HILLS!



I DON'T KNOW WHO SAVED ANTELOPE GIRL WITH THAT NET I FOUND, NOR WHY— BUT I MEAN TO FIND OUT!



A SHORT DISTANCE AHEAD OF THE SWIFTLY GALLOPING REDMASK, AMONG THE TALUS ROCKS OF THE RIPSAP RANGE—

THERE IS THE GOLD MINE OF MY PEOPLE!



GOLD! GOLD ALL OVER THE PLACE! EACH WALL IS PURE, SOLID GOLD! THIS MUST BE THE RICHEST MINE IN ALL THE WORLD!



EVEN THE FLOOR IS COVERED WITH GOLD. BIG CHUNKS OF IT! NO WONDER THE COMANCHES HAVE KEPT THIS PLACE SO SECRET! GOLD, JUST WAITING TO BE PICKED UP! NOW THEIR SECRET IS MY SECRET!



I AIM TO KEEP THIS PLACE A SECRET, TOO! THAT MEANS I'M THE ONLY ONE WHO'S GOING TO KNOW I FOUND IT!





I LOST MY SIXGUN WHEN HE SHOT IT OUT OF MY FINGERS, BUT I STILL GOT MY WINCHESTER! WHILE REDMASK'S TRYING TO WORK THAT SAND OUT OF HIS EYES, HE MAKES A PERFECT TARGET!



SAND HURTS—SO MUCH THAT TEARS OF PAIN ARE STARTING TO WASH IT OUT—ENOUGH SO I CAN SEE!



AS THOSE TEARS OF AGONY STREAM DOWN, REDMASK'S VISION CLEARS...



SUDDENLY A HARSH VOICE CRIES OUT!



HOLD! YOU ARE **BOTH** PRISONERS OF THE COMANCHES! THE FALSE REDMASK MUST BE PUNISHED!

BUT WHICH IS THE FALSE, AND WHICH IS THE **REAL** REDMASK?

I—RUNNING BEAR—WHO BROUGHT YOU AFTER THEM FROM INDIAN FALLS, DO NOT KNOW!

I KNOW! I CAN TELL WHICH IS THE **REAL** REDMASK!



THE **FALSE** REDMASK WAS IN THE CAVE OF GOLD. SEE! **GOLD DUST** STILL CLINGS TO HIS GLOVES! **HE** IS THE DECEIVER! **HE** IS THE ONE WHO SHALL BE PUNISHED!



THE END

REDMASK'S CAVE

Dear Readers,

Have you seen the new **BLACK PHANTOM** book? Don't miss it!

REDMASK

To: Robert Eugene Moody, Indianapolis, Indiana

One of my own personal favorites among the old time sheriffs and marshalls is Bill Tilghman. While not a "cowboy" in the strict sense of the word, Billy Tilghman was a man who feared God and no one else, not even raw desperadoes and killers like Bill Doolin and the Dalton gang. You hear very little of Tilghman these days, but he was fast on the draw, a splendid marksman, and possessed of courage that was close to foolhardiness.

Bill Tilghman was a marshall operating in and around Oklahoma in the days when Oklahoma was really *wild west*. He was in the boom run into Oklahoma in 1893, having left Atchison, Kansas when only sixteen. He learned to use a gun well, and made sure that he always used it on the side of law and order. For over fifty years, he was a respected and feared lawman of the west.

Death found Billy Tilghman when he was over *seventy*—shot by a common drunk whom he was escorting to the police station. My mask is off to him. A great man.

To: Rocky Gay, Bastian, Virginia

On that long-gone but still fascinating day when General Custer and his Seventh Cavalry were massacred by the Sioux and Cheyenne, his troopers carried singleshots 45-70 Springfield carbines and Colt and Remington revolvers. Each trooper packed 100 rounds of carbine ammunition, and 24 rounds for his revolver. Of these 124 bullets, 80 were carried in his belt, the rest in his saddlebags.

A little known fact about the massacre—to those of us who are accustomed to thinking of the Indians as armed only with bows and arrows and crude, old muskets—is the fact that *they were far better armed than the U.S. Cavalry!* Henry repeating rifles together with varied singleshots rifles, plus revolvers and their own bows, arrows, lances and warclubs, were enough to carry the day for them.

The Henry repeater was made in the East.

Unfortunately, we do not have pictures of Colts or rifles for distribution to our readers. The best I can do is recommend you to your local library, where the librarian will be only too happy to show you handbooks of arms. If you are too young for this, I'm sure your Dad or an older brother will be glad to borrow such a volume for you.

The first Gatling gun—fore-runner of our modern machine-gun, mounted on three legs and fitted with six barrels that rotated by a crank—used the .58 calibre bullet. It could fire 200 shots a minute.

A feed case of cartridges was placed in the hopper, and then the crank was turned and—hang on, brother! For those days (Gatling guns were first used in the Civil War) this revolutionary weapon was as awesome as the atom bomb is to us.

Some later Gatling guns fired cartridges in the one-inch size.

To: Martin Goldsmith, Allerton, Massachusetts

William Barclay Masterson, commonly known as "Bat" Masterson, one of the fastest gunmen who ever lived, and one-time marshall of Dodge City when Dodge City was wild, was born near Fairfield, Illinois. He died in New York City, where he had come to work on a newspaper, on October 25, 1921.

To: Bobby Cherry, Detroit, Michigan

Yes, indeed. There were such early inhabitants of the United States known as the cliff-dwellers. They carved and built their homes under the overhanging brows of towering cliffs, and used ladders and ropes to climb up to them. When they were attacked, all they had to do was draw up those ladders, and who could hurt them? You can see some of these cliff dwellings today, at Mesa Verde, Colorado.

The cliff-dwellers were early Indians, but we do not know to which tribal stock they belonged.

To: Laura Brewster, Myrtle Beach, South Carolina

The first buffalos did not look much like the buffalo you and I know. They were mammoth creatures, standing eight feet or more tall at their shoulders. They were called aurochs. From these shaggy monsters our buffalo (or more properly, the bison) is descended.

To: Benny Jenkins, Euporia, Kansas

One of the greatest sheriffs was Wyatt Earp.

To: Kathleen Braman, Marathon, New York
Pasear in Spanish is a word meaning to look around, or to take a look.

To: Robert Cragin, Schenectady, New York
Belle Starr, one of our most famous women outlaws in the days of the old west, was born of good family in Carthage, Missouri. However, when she married Jim Reed, an outlaw, he took her into Indian Territory to live the life of an outlaw's wife. When Reed was killed, Belle joined Sam Bass, a famous Texan gunthrower. Later on, she became friendly with yet another outlaw possessing the unusual name of Blue Duck. Belle Starr was not the movie-type beauty, but her blue eyes were intent and pleasant. Readers of Redmask's Cave will remember how I pointed out, some issues back, that most outlaws and gunfighters were blondes with blue eyes. Here is an outlaw woman, also with blue eyes!

Belle carried a .44 calibre saddle rifle, and never hesitated to use it when needed. It is said that she killed seven men with this rifle.

Belle really began her wild career when she married outlaw Henry Starr. After her arrest and conviction with her husband for stealing, she served her term and then "went straight." Ironically enough, it was after she became a reformed woman that she was murdered, by an outlaw with whom she refused to dance at a social gathering.

To: Jimmy Wilson, Austin, Texas

Geronimo was the most famous Apache chief, Masai the most ferocious. By the time this reaches print, you probably will have seen Burt Lancaster in the character role of Masai in the motion picture, *Apache*. I have told you in former issues of the deadly deeds attributed to this wild "bronco Apache" whose death-dealing hands were turned even against his own people.

To: Sammie Ballard, Belmont, N. C.; Judith Carr, no address; Francis Mayer, Gueydan, La.; Jerrie Neuenschwandes, Monroe, Wisconsin; Walt Komarnicki, Montreal, Canada; Lois Hollingsworth, Steele, Alabama; Robert E. Harris, Kinston, N. C.; Anne Kirkland, Bloomfield, California.

Tim Holt is 5 feet 11 inches tall, and has brown eyes. It is impossible for the editors to mail you pictures of Tim at this time. I would advise you to write to his motion picture studio, publicity department, that handles such requests. This goes for all you other boys and girls who write in asking for pics.

At the same time, I would like to remind you that, so far, we have no pictures available of Redmask for distribution. If you want such a picture, why not write in to the editor of this magazine, and request him to assign an artist to draw a picture of Redmask, and print it on the inside cover of the magazine, so that you can clip it out and keep it? The editor will be glad to hear of such a reader response!

The Black Phantom is not married.

The Lone Ranger has never revealed his true identity, so the files in the Cave have no information on this subject.

Ken Maynard was a famous western movie star of some twenty to thirty years ago. He was not a western gunman like Billy the Kid and Wild Bill Hickok.

Redmask has no interest in gold. His only concern is law enforcement, and to see justice done. That is why the gold in his cave goes unmined to this day.

Billy the Kid was shot and killed by Sheriff Pat Garrett. The reason Garrett shot him was that Billy the Kid was a wanted man and had refused uncounted times to surrender and serve in jail for his crimes. With Garrett facing the sixgun of Billy the Kid, it was kill or be killed, so he shot and killed the boy outlaw.

There are longhorns in Texas only on certain park preserves and large ranches today. They are kept out of sentiment, and not to eat. The longhorn's meat is not so tender as the meat of Herefords and other cattle. Remember, in 1866 to 1880, there were few railroads out west and ranchers had to take their stock to market. The longhorn could make such a trip without losing too much weight. Since the ranchers were paid according to the weight of the animal, they wanted one who would bring the best return at the end of the journey.

To: John Vizard, no address; David Chananie, Hartford, Conn.

Redmask carries the Colt Peacemaker, the famous .45 calibre revolver used by Wild Bill Hickok and other gunfighters.

To: Jimmie Quick, Garber, Missouri

A rattlesnake will cross a horsehair rope as well as a rope of any other construction . . . if he wants to cross it. This belief is an old superstition in which there is no basis in fact.

—REDMASK

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RED MASK



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THE SENTENCE OF DEATH IS PRONOUNCED ON **STARFIRE**, THE WILD STALLION FROM THE CRAZY MAN COUNTRY. BUT EVEN AS HIS DOOM IS PRONOUNCED, IT SETS IN ORDER THE EVENTS THAT BRING THE RED RIVER GANG INTO THE TOWN OF BULLET ON A DEADLY MISSION, AND SENDS **REDMASK** OUT INTO THE CANYON COUNTRY ON THE TRAIL OF

"THE OUTLAW BRONC!"

A FEW MOMENTS AFTER JUDGE MORRISON COMES OFF THE BENCH TO HIS PRIVATE CHAMBERS...



IT WAS OLD CLEM DAVIS WHO FOUND THE STALLION AS A COLT...

RECKON I'LL TAKE YOU ALONG TO MY SECRET GOLD-MINE. AIN'T NOBODY BUT ME KNOWS ABOUT IT, BUT YOU SURE WON'T BE ABLE TO TELL ANYONE WHERE IT IS!



OLD CLEM RAISED STARFIRE, FEEDING HIM GRAIN AND OATS HE LUGGED ON MULEBACK OVER THE MOUNTAINS, AT THE LITTLE SHACK HE BUILT UNDER AN OVERHANGING BLUFF SO NO ONE COULD SEE IT FROM A DISTANCE...



NO MAN EVER RODE THE BIG GREY HORSE. HE'S STILL AN UNTAMED MUSTANG. ONE DAY, THE RED RIVER GANG SAW STARFIRE FOLLOWING THE OLD MAN...



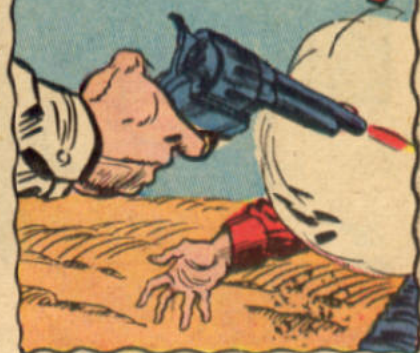
WHERE'S THAT GOLD-MINE OF YOURS, CLEM?

I'LL NEVER TELL! SHOOT IF YE WANT, BUT —



YOU OLD FOOL! IF YOU WON'T TALK, THEN I WILL SHOOT!

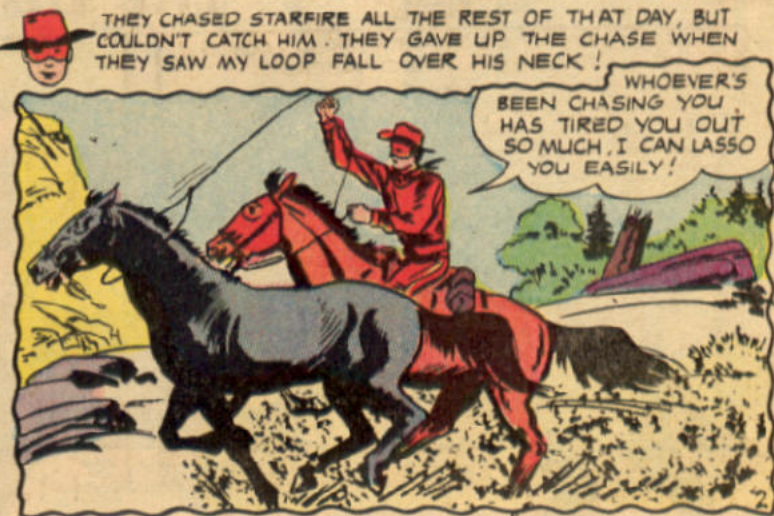
BLAMMM



HEY! GRAB THAT BRONG! HE KNOWS WHERE THE OLD MAN'S GOLD MINE IS!



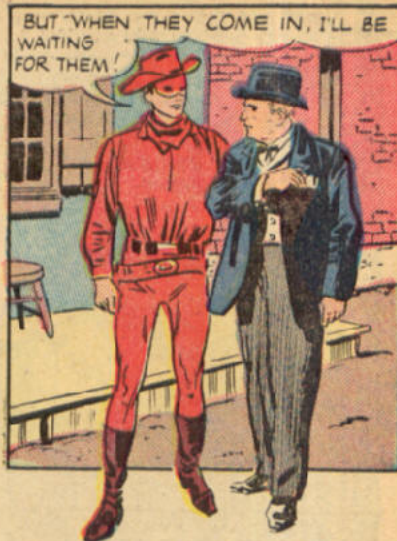
THEY CHASED STARFIRE ALL THE REST OF THAT DAY, BUT COULDN'T CATCH HIM. THEY GAVE UP THE CHASE WHEN THEY SAW MY LOOP FALL OVER HIS NECK!



WHOEVER'S BEEN CHASING YOU HAS TIRED YOU OUT SO MUCH, I CAN LASSO YOU EASILY!



THE RED RIVER GANG KNOWS THAT A HORSE WILL ALWAYS RETURN TO ITS HOME CORRAL. TO STARFIRE, THAT MINE ENTRANCE WHERE OLD CLEM FED HIM IS HIS HOME CORRAL! WHEN WORD GOES OUT THAT STARFIRE HAS BEEN SENTENCED TO DIE — THE RED RIVER GANG WILL MAKE AN ATTEMPT TO SAVE HIM, HOPING HE'LL SHOW THEM WHERE THE GOLD MINE IS!



BUT WHEN THEY COME IN, I'LL BE WAITING FOR THEM!



SOMETIME LATER, THAT NIGHT, AS THE TOWN OF BULLET DROWSES IN THE MOONLIGHT —

ZEKE! GET INSIDE AND RUN OUT THAT GREY! PRONTO!



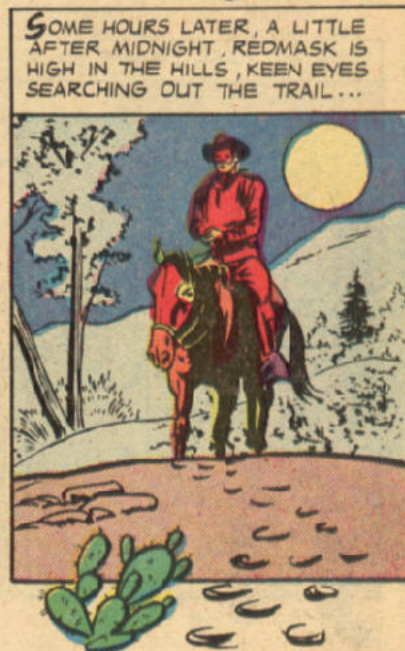
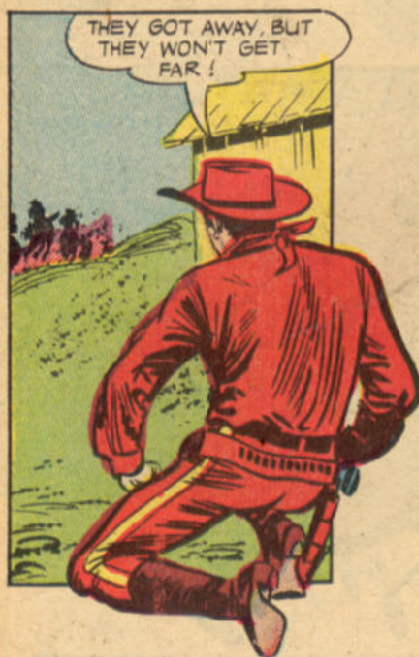
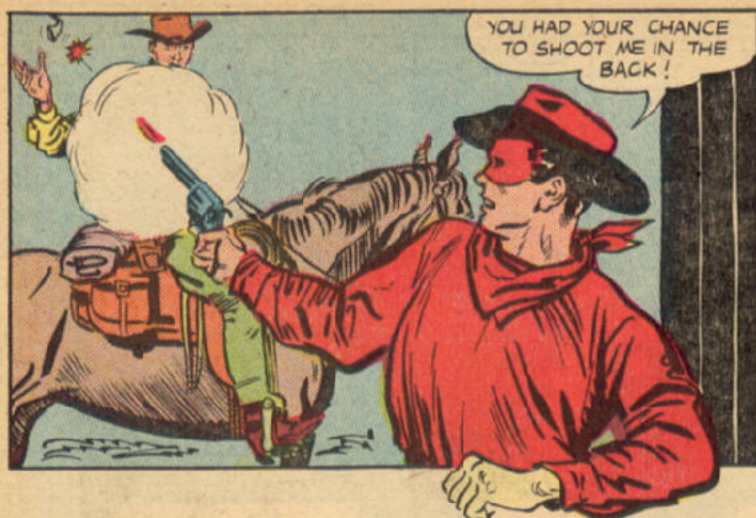
I'VE GOT HIM, RED!



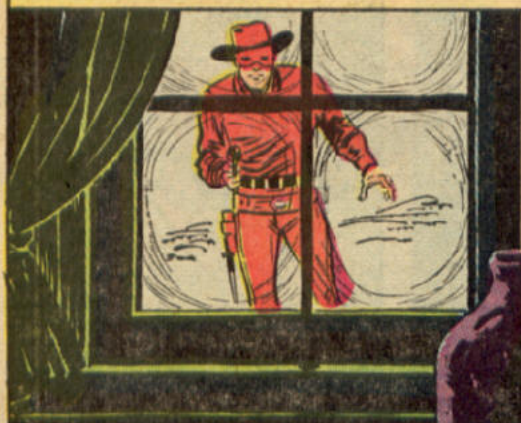
GNNGG!

YOU HAVE THE HORSE, BUT I HAVE YOU!





UNAWARE THAT HE IS MOVING INTO A DEATH TRAP, THE CRIMSON CAVALIER OF THE RIO GRANDE COUNTRY WALKS FORWARD SLOWLY...



COLT SIX GUNS WAIT INSIDE TO CUT HIM DOWN AS HIS HAND CLOSES ON THE DOORKNOB...

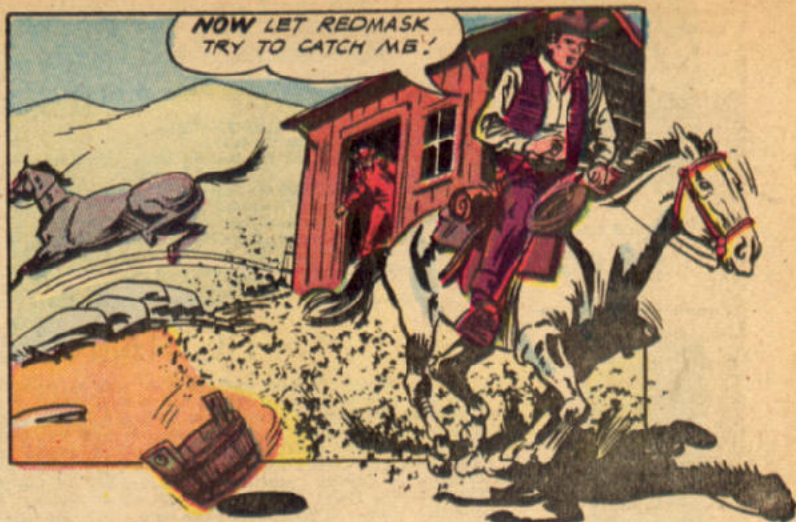


THEN REDMASK DRAWS BACK —

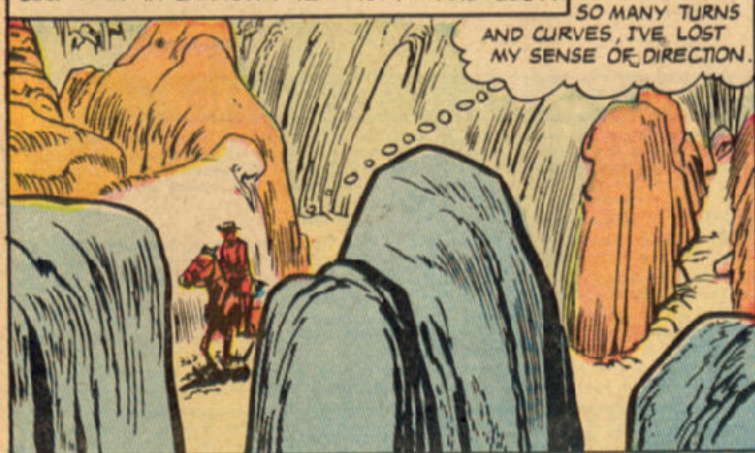


INSECTS.
CROWDED AROUND THE GLASS PANES AND THE DOOR! THEY ONLY CROWD AROUND LIKE THAT WHEN THERE'S A LIGHT ON INSIDE! SOMEBODY MUST HAVE TURNED A LIGHT OFF IN THE CABIN ONLY A FEW SECONDS AGO!





AS DAWN FLOODS THE CANYON COUNTRY, REDMASK FINDS HIMSELF DEEP IN UNKNOWN TERRITORY — AND LOST!





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**70 lbs. of
MIGHTY MUSCLE**

Won a BIG SILVER TROPHY
and made the football team.
I was a 90 lb. Skeleton before,
says Cleveland.

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to this MUSCULAR HE-MAN

I added 6 inches
to each ARM
10 inches to my CHEST
says Ken Grimm.

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PACKED
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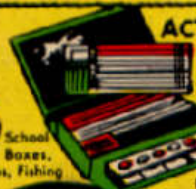
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